

REMARKS

1. Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-11, 14-18, 27, and 46-50 are pending. Claims 1-11, 14-18, 27, and 46-50 are indicated by the Examiner as being allowed. Claim 12 is herein canceled.

Claims 4 and 17 are amended to correct multiple dependencies. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

As this action is intended to and should place this application in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner enter the above-noted claims.

2. Double Patenting

The Examiner objects to claim 12 as a “substantial duplicate of claim 1.” Applicants have canceled claim 12. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the objection and permit claims 1-11, 14-18, 27, and 46-50 to proceed towards allowance.

CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Leonard R. Svensson Reg. No. 30,330 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

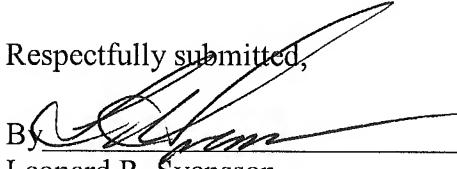
Application No. 10/723,908
Amendment dated November 19, 2009
Reply to Office Action of September 16, 2009

Docket No.: 0459-0752P

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: November 19, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Leonard R. Svensson
Registration No.: 30,330
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
12770 High Bluff Drive
Suite 260
San Diego, California 92130
(858) 792-8855
Attorney for Applicant